



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION BUREAU  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

60112

**49 CFR Parts 173 and 178**

[Docket No. HM-166C; Notice No. 79-13]

**Termination of Certain Regulations;  
Obsolete Packaging Specifications**

**AGENCY:** Materials Transportation Bureau, Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Materials Transportation Bureau (MTB), in its continuing effort to clarify and simplify the Hazardous Materials Regulations, believes that certain specification packagings are no longer being manufactured or in general use and is proposing their termination.

**DATE:** Comments by January 8, 1980.

**ADDRESS:** Send comments to: Dockets Branch, Materials Transportation Bureau, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590. It is requested that five copies be submitted.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

R. Abis, Exemptions and Regulations Termination Branch, Materials Transportation Bureau, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590. (202-472-2726).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice proposes to eliminate 27 DOT specification packagings from Part 178 of the Hazardous Materials Regulations. It also would eliminate references to these specifications contained in Part 173. It is believed that these named specification packagings are no longer being manufactured or in general use. A preliminary review revealed that DOT Specification 2A metal containers are still being manufactured; however, it is believed that this specification could be deleted from Part 178 and revisions made to the eight sections in Part 173

which authorize a 2A container by requiring a tight metal container of not over 10-gallon capacity. The MTB believes that this revision would maintain the level of safety equivalent to requiring the use of a specification 2A container. This proposal would eliminate approximately 18 percent of the specifications contained in Part 178. It is believed that this termination effort will be an aid in simplifying the use of the regulations.

The MTB solicits comments from persons manufacturing or using any of the packagings which the MTB is proposing to delete. Comments should include: (1) The specification identification number of any of the listed packagings still in production; (2) the number of packagings affected by this proposal that are still in use and (3) the expected economic impact of elimination of any of the specifications. The MTB also requests information regarding other specification packagings which are obsolete.

The primary drafters of this notice are Irving R. Abis, Office of Hazardous Materials Regulation, Exemptions and Regulations Termination Branch, and Evan C. Braude, of the Office of the Chief Counsel, Research and Special Programs Administration.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is proposed to amend Part 173 and Part 178 of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as follows:

**PART 173—SHIPPERS GENERAL  
REQUIREMENTS FOR SHIPMENTS  
AND PACKAGINGS**

1. All references to Specifications proposed to be deleted from Part 178 would be deleted in Part 173.

**PART 178—SHIPPING CONTAINER  
SPECIFICATIONS**

2. In part 178 the following specifications would be deleted in their entirety

Section No.	Specification
178.20	2A—inside containers, metal cans, pails and kits.
178.38	3B—seamless steel cylinders.
178.40	3C—seamless steel cylinders.
178.41	3D—seamless steel cylinders.
178.43	3A480X—seamless steel cylinders.
178.48	4—forge welded steel cylinders.
178.49	4A—forge welded steel cylinders.
178.52	4C—welded and brazed steel cylinders.
178.84	5D—steel barrels or drums, lined.
178.85	5F—steel drums.
178.87	5H—steel barrels or drums, lead lined.
178.89	5L—steel barrels or drums.
178.91	5X—steel drums, aluminum lined.
178.92	5P—lugged steel drums.
178.97	6A—steel barrels or drums.
178.99	6C—steel barrels or drums.
178.101	6K—steel barrels or drums.
178.108	42C—aluminum barrels or drums.
178.110	42F—aluminum barrels or drums.
178.111	42G—aluminum drums.
178.112	42H—aluminum drums; removable head containers not authorized.
178.119	17X—steel barrels or drums.
178.130	37K—steel drums.
178.136	42E—aluminum drums.
178.140	13—metal kegs.
178.214	23F—fiberboard boxes.
178.219	23H—fiberboard boxes.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1808; 49 CFR 1.53, App. A to Part 1, and paragraph (a)(4) App. A to Part 106.

**Note.**—The Materials Transportation Bureau has determined that this proposed regulation will not have a major economic impact under the terms of Executive Order 12044 and DOT implementing procedures (44 FR 11034), nor an environmental impact under the National Environmental Policy Act (49 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). A regulatory evaluation is available for review in the docket.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on October 12, 1979.

Alan I. Roberts,

Associate Director for Hazardous Materials Regulation, Materials Transportation Bureau.

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